

Message Text

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ORIGIN STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
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APPROVED BY STR:AWWOLFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: HANAOKA VISIT: MTN TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, COAL,
TFC, FLATWARE

1. SUMMARY - AFTER LEARNING FROM WOLFF THAT U.S.
PREFERRED TO HOLD TARIFF DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA USING MTN
DEL, HANAOKA SAID TAKAHASHI WOULD GO TO GENEVA ROUND
JUNE 7 TO UNVEIL JAPAN'S IMPROVED INDUSTRIAL TARIFF OFFER,
WITH YANO GOING TO GENEVA OR WASHINGTON ABOUT ONE WEEK
LATER TO GET U.S. REACTION AND TRY TO REACH PRELIMINARY
AGREEMENT. OTHER SUBJECTS DISCUSSED AT MAY 30 MEETING
WERE COAL, TFC, LEATHER AND STAINLESS STEEL FLATWARE.
END SUMMARY.

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2. HANAOKA, NUMBER TWO MAN IN MITI'S TRADE POLICY BUREAU,
IN WASHINGTON FOR BONN SUMMIT PREPARATORY MEETING, CALLED
ON AMBASSADOR WOLFF MAY 30 TO ASK FOR A MEETING IN
WASHINGTON OR GENEVA BETWEEN WOLFF AND MITI DIRECTOR
GENERAL YANNO WEEK OF JUNE 5. PURPOSE OF MEETING WOULD
BE FOR JAPANESE TO REVEAL THEIR IMPROVED OFFER AND TO

REACH TENTATIVE U.S. JAPAN AGREEMENT ON INDUSTRIAL TARIFFS.
WOLFF EXPLAINED THAT SUCH A MEETING SHOULD BE HELD IN
GENEVA WITH U.S. DEL HANAOKA SAID IN THAT CASE HE WOULD
HAVE TO CALL YANO TO SEE WHAT HE WANTED TO DO.

3. TANABE, MITI MAN IN JAPAN'S EMBASSY HERE, CALLED
BARREDA BACK TO SAY THAT GOJ NOW PLANNING TO SEND
TAKAHASHI TO GENEVA FOR PRELIMINARY MEETING TO EXPLAIN
IMPROVEMENTS IN JAPANESE OFFER. AFTER ABOUT A WEEK,
WHICH GOJ EXPECTED U.S. WOULD NEED TO CONSIDER LIST,
YANO WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO GO TO WASHINGTON OR GENEVA,
WHICHEVER U.S. PREFERRED, TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS.
BARREDA SAID SCHEDULE SHOULD BE WORKED OUT WITH U.S.
GENEVA DELEGATION.

4. AFTER DISCUSSION OF MTN NEGOTIATIONS, WOLFF EXPRESSED
U.S. CONCERN ABOUT DECLINING JAPANESE PURCHASES OF COAL,
INQUIRED ABOUT TFC WORK, AND EXPLAINED SERIOUSNESS OF
SITUATION CAUSED BY LACK OF PROGRESS IN LEATHER
CONSULTATIONS. HANAOKA SAID FALL IN U.S. COAL EXPORTS DUE
TO BAD WINTER IN 76-77 AND COAL STRIKE IN 77-78, AND THAT
IS FAR AS HE KNEW THERE WAS NO VIOLATION OF CONTRACTS. HE
SAID TFC WAS MAKING PROGRESS, ESPECIALLY IN INFORMING
U.S. PUBLIC HOW TO SELL IN JAPAN (JETRO'S PROGRAM), AND
THAT JAPAN WOULD BE ABLE TO SUBSTANTIALLY SATISFY U.S. ON
TOBACCO CASE (NO DETAILS GIVEN). HE MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE
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COMMENT ON LEATHER PROBLEM.

5. AT END OF MEETING HANAOKA MADE FAMILIAR PRESENTATION
ON STAINLESS STEEL FLATWARE ESCAPE CLAUSE CASE (GOJ
CONCERN ABOUT LARGE TARIFF INCREASE PROPOSED BY USITC,
REGIONAL CONCENTRATION OF INDUSTRY OF JAPAN, MODERATE
BEHAVIOR OF JAPANESE INDUSTRY WHICH HAD FOLLOWED
VOLUNTARY EXPORT RESTRAINT, INJURY COULD NOT BE BLAMED
ON JAPANESE EXPORTS). ASKED ABOUT WHAT REMEDY JAPAN
WOULD PREFER IF IMPORT RELIEF WERE DETERMINED TO BE
NECESSARY BY PRESIDENT, HANAOKA SAID GOJ WOULD HOPE U.S.
WOULD NOT TAKE A MEASURE WHICH WOULD DISRUPT JAPANESE
EXPORTS, OR CHANGE PATTERN OF EXPORTS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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